

Wedding Policy

St. Timothy welcomes people of any spiritual background, gender and orientation into full participation of worship, membership, sacraments, weddings, and any work of the church. We joyfully look forward to celebrating same gender, gay, lesbian, and transgender weddings.

Membership at St. Timothy is not required to have a wedding at the church, but any weddings in the St. Timothy sanctuary must be officiated by the Pastor of St. Timothy. All are welcome regardless of background and current faith practices, but the ceremony itself will be Christian in nature. Communion is highly recommended, but not required.

Marriage in the Lutheran Tradition

In the Lutheran Church marriage is understood to be a gift from God, intended for the joy and mutual strength of those who enter it and for the well-being of the whole human family. It is God who has declared that whom God has joined, let no one hinder or put asunder. The church declares your union to be holy, we gather as witnesses to bless what God has already decreed good.

Marriage is also a human estate, with vows publicly witnessed. The church in worship surrounds these promises with the gathering of God's people, witness of the Word of God, the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and prayers of blessing and intercession.

The Church assumes that you are planning your wedding here as part of your participation or interest in the life of this congregation. We look forward to welcoming you into this community if you so choose, *but church membership is not a requirement to have a wedding at St. Timothy.*

Getting Started (recommended six months or more in advance)

After reading this information the next step is to contact the Pastor and make an appointment to meet. At our first meeting we will discuss and choose your wedding date. You are encouraged to first speak with the Pastor before committing to a reception venue date.

Only upon receipt of the deposit (for the use of the building) is the church committed to the date and time agreed upon. All remaining fees are due at the last premarital counseling session.

Premarital Counseling

In order to start off a marriage in the healthiest way possible, a minimum of three pre-marital counseling sessions with the pastor is required. Please make sure to schedule these before booking services for the wedding or a venues for the reception. These sessions will cover expectations of the couple in regard to the wedding and the marriage. This is the opportunity to review the liturgy and make decisions about the service, itself.

Music

The wedding is a religious service and as such the music must be carefully chosen to be appropriate for a sanctuary. The music director of St. Timothy is available to provide music for the ceremony for a fee. Outside musicians are welcome as long as the music is approved in advance.

Fees

Sanctuary usage: \$500

Pre-marital Counseling: For members \$35 For non-members \$350 neg.

Altar Guild: \$100

Church Musician (optional): \$300

Bulletins: \$50

Sexton: \$250

*Please note that NOTHNG (balloons, seeds, bubbles, etc.) are permitted to be thrown or released inside the building. Bubbles are permitted outside.